Message Text

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42.

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 EUR-12 IO-10 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 /086 W

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R 191230Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3063 INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

UNCLAS TEHRAN 8060

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IR

SUBJ: PRESS CLAIMS PRO-SOVIET COUP PRECEDED RIGHTIST COUP IN BANGLADESH

1. PERSIAN-LANGUAGE KAYHAN CARRIED LONG ARTICLE AUGUST 17 CLAIMING THERE HAD ACTUALLY BEEN TWO COUPS IN BANGLADESH AUGUST 15, A PRO-SOVIET ONE BEGINNING AT 3:30 AM IN WHICH MUJIB WAS KILLED, FOLLOWED BY RIGHTIST COUNTERCOUP AT 5:30 AM IN WHICH LEFTIST COUP-MAKERS WERE KILLED. WE UNDERSTAND SOURCE OF UNSIGNED ARTICLE IS AFP WHICH CLAIMS THAT GOVT OF BANGLADESH IS PREPARING TO CONFIRM THIS STORY. OTHER PERSIAN AND FOREIGNLANGUAGE PAPERS IN IRAN HAVE NOT REFERRED TO THIS VERSION OF EVENTS.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF ARTICLE, WHICH WE PASS ON FOR WHATEVER IT MAY BE WORTH, ARE THAT LEFTIST COUP HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR MONTHS BY PRO-MOSCOW ELEMENTS DISCHARGED FROM CABINET BY MUJIB, INCLUDING TAJ-ED-DIN AHMAD, ABDOS-SAMAD AZAD, MOHAMMAD SOHRAB HUSSEIN, GHAMAR OZ ZAMAN, ABDAR RAB, GHORBAN ALI AND SHAMS AL HAGH, BANGLADESH'S AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW. TWO COUSINS OF MUJIB, SHAHED AND MUNIR, AND THE FORMER VICE PRES, NAZR AL ISLAM, COOPERATED WITH LEFTTISTS. GROUP IS SAID TO HAVE FEARED MUJIB WOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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GRAVITATE TOWARD WEST. RIGHTISTS FOR THEIR PART WERE ALSO

PLANNING COUP FOR END OF THIS MONTH BUT WANTED TO KEEP MUJIB AS SYMBOL. IN ADDITION TO DHONDEGAR MUSHTAGH AHMAD, THIS GROUP INCLUDED ABDOL MANNAN, TRADE UNION LEADER, ABU SA'ID CHODHARI, FIRST PRES OF BANGLADESH, PROF YOOSEF AMI AND ABRAHIM ALI. WHEN THEY GOT WORD OF LEFTIST COUP, ALLEGEDLY THROUGH INTELLIGENCE AGENTS WHO COOPERATED WITH U.S., THEY IMMEDIATELY SEIZED DACCA RADIO AND BROADCAST NEWS OF COUP BUT SAID NOTHING OF MUJIB MURDER. THEIR FORCES THEN FOUGHT LEFTISTS AROUND DANMANDI AND OFFICER'S CLUB. WITH LARGE NUMBERS ON BOTH SIDES KILLED. PRO-MOSCOW FORCES ARE SAID TO HAVE PREPARED THOUSANDS OF ARMED MEN IN COUNTRYSIDE FOR ATTACKING DACCA BUT RIGHTISTS THWARTED THIS MOVE BY SURROUNDING CAPITAL AND DECLARING MARTIAL LAW.

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Message Attributes

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